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NEW OR OTHERWISE NOTEWORTHY APOCYNACEAE
OF TROPICAL AMERICA. VII¹

ROBERT E. WOODSON, JR.

Assistant Curator of the Herbarium, Missouri Botanical Garden

Assistant Professor in the Henry Shaw School of Botany of Washington University

Mortoniella Woodson, gen. nov. Apocynacearum (Plumerioideae-Alstoniinae). Calyx 5-partitus eglandulosus; lacinae scariaceae vel paullulo foliaceae imbricatae sat aequales mox caedues. Corolla salverformis; tubus gracilis basi paulo gibbosus ibique staminigerus; limbi lacinae 5 paulo inaequales aestivatione sinistrorsum convolutae. Stamina 5 epipetala profunde inclusa; antherae inter se liberae 4-loculares omnino fertiles nullomodo appendiculatae; filamenta perbrevia. Ovarii carpella gemina basi distincta apice in stylo aequilongo turbinato producta, ovulis 12, 4-seriatim superpositis; stigma breviter fusiformi-capitatum. Nectaria nulla.—Arbores vel frutices (?). Folia alternata petiolo medio glandulo-umbonato caeterumque eglandulosa integra penninervia. Inflorescentia terminalis thyrsiformis.

Mortoniella Pittieri Woodson, spec. nov.; arborea vel fruticosa (?); foliis alternatis longe petiolatis oblongo-ellipticis apice longiuscule subcaudato-acuminatis basi acute obtuseque cuneatis 10–13 cm. longis 2.0–3.2 cm. latis membranaceis omnino glabris dense subhorizontaliterque nervosis, petiolo ca. 2.5 cm. longo medio glandulo-umbonato; inflorescentiis thyr-

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soideis terminalibus plurifloris 2.5–6.0 cm. longis; pedicellis 0.5–0.7 cm. longis; calycis lobis late ovatis vel ovato-oblongis obtusis 0.15 cm. longis extus minute puberulis; corollae salverformis tubo 1.5–2.0 cm. longo basi ca. 0.12 cm. diam. deinde paululo gibboso-inflato fauces versus gradatim ampliato extus glabro intus basi villosobarbato caeterumque glabro, lobis oblique obovato-oblongis rotundatis paulo inaequilateralibus 1.7–2.0 cm. longis 0.5–0.7 cm. latis patulis; antheris compressis ellipsoideis 0.15 cm. longis; ovariis compressis ovoideis ca. 0.1 cm. longis glabris; stigmatibus 0.1 cm. longo; fructu ignoto.—**COSTA RICA:** bois de la baie de Salinas, July, 1890, *H. Pittier 2912* (Herb. Inst. Bot. Lausanne, TYPE).

It is most unfortunate that both the habit and the fruit of this remarkable plant are unknown. I suspect that it is rather closely related to *Aspidosperma*, but it is without a gynoeceal nectary, and both the caducous calyx-lobes and the peculiar petiolar glands are quite unlike anything in the Apocynaceae known to me. The aspect of the specimen somewhat resembles *Vallesia*, but the number and arrangement of the ovules are quite different, of course, and the characteristic intrapetiolar glands of the latter genus are lacking. The genus is named in honor of Mr. C. V. Morton, of the United States National Herbarium, who called to my attention the type specimen, which had long remained unidentified in the Institut de Botanique of the University of Lausanne.

PRESTONIA dentigera Woodson, sp. nov. Frutex volubilis omnino glabrus altitudine ignotus, ramulis gracillimis internodiis ca. 15–18 cm. longis; foliis obovatis vel obovato-oblongis apice rotundatis et abruptissime breviterque apiculatis basi late obtusis 15–17 cm. longis 7.5–9.0 cm. latis membranaceis, petiolo 1.0–1.5 cm. longo; inflorescentiis lateralibus, pedunculo sterili 5 cm. longo, ramis florigeris 3 cm. longis, bracteis setaceis vix 0.1 cm. longis, pedicellis geminis 1 cm. longis; calycis lobis oblongo-lanceolatis acuminatis foliaceis plus minusve purpurissatis 0.5–0.6 cm. longis, squamellis late dentiformibus apice minutissime erosis; corollae ut dicitur flavidulae saturateque rubrae tubo 1.5 cm. longo basi ca. 0.25 cm. diam., lobis

late dolabriformibus minute apiculatis 0.8 cm. longis patentibus; appendicibus epistaminalibus oblongis vix inclusis; antheris oblongo-sagittatis 0.6 cm. longis dorso minutissime puberulis apice paulo exsertis; ovariis ovoideis ca. 0.15 cm. longis glabris; stigmatibus subcapitato-fusiforme 0.15 cm. longo; nectariis carnosius conspicue dentiformibus compresse ovoideis basi vix concretescentibus apice distincte acuteque lobatis basi vix concretescentibus; folliculis ignotis.—COSTA RICA: vicinity of El General, Prov. San José, alt. 640 m., Jan., 1939, *A. F. Skutch 3864* (U. S. National Herb., TYPE).

This species is closely related to *P. concolor* (Blake) Woods. and *P. obovata* Standl., but differs from both in the trichotomous inflorescence and the very peculiar, tooth-shaped nectaries.

MESECHITES TRIFIDA (Jacq.) Muell.-Arg. var. **tomentulosa** Woodson, var. nov., a varietate typica planta tota corolla excepta dense minuteque tomentulosa differt.—BRAZIL: Tapereinha bei Santarem, im Bestand der *Montrichardia arborescens* kletternd, July 10, 1927, *A. Ginzberger 351* (Herb. Field Mus., TYPE). Recalling *M. bicorniculata* (Rusby) Woods., but with the floral dimensions of typical *M. trifida*.